



PARRA NOTES

Friday, June 3

I had a wonderful time in the district this past weekend. It was great seeing many of you at the various community events.

On Friday night, I attended the **NAACP's 1st Annual Awards Dinner** in **Hanford** where I was very delighted to see **Hanford NAACP** Chapter President **Dr. Willard Robertson**, the Honorable Judge **Timothy S. Buckley** from the Fifth Appellate District Court and the Honorable **George Orndoff** from the **Kings County Superior Court**.

Saturday evening I had the honor of presenting a resolution to **Joe Soltero** at the **Adelante's 22nd Annual Leadership Awards Banquet** in **Bakersfield**. Mr. Soltero has been a local Little League coach in **Delano** for over 37 years! It was also great seeing Delano Mayor **Ruben Hill**, former Delano Mayor **Art Armendariz** and Executive Director **Angel Diaz** from the **California Migrant Leadership Council** who did an incredible job hosting this event. My evening came to a close at the **Pathways Juvenile Hall** where I joined 12 young ladies in their bi-weekly social night. It's always refreshing to spend time with youth and to listen to their concerns.

On Monday, I was invited by Tulare City Councilman **Phil Vandegrift** and the **Tulare Veterans Association** to attend their annual Memorial Day event at the **Tulare Cemetery**. I had the honor of presenting a bouquet of roses to **Alice Arriola** and the family of the late **Dominga Castellanoz**, a Gold Star Mother who attended every Memorial Day service since 1953.

Legislative Update

It's been a very intense Legislative week. On Wednesday our legislative session ran from 9:30 a.m. to midnight. This week alone, my colleagues and I reviewed and voted on approximately 450 pieces of legislation. It was all necessary to meet an important deadline we face today. By midnight tonight, all bills must leave the house of origin, meaning that all legislation that has successfully passed through committee must be voted on in the Assembly floor and sent to the Senate.

There was much success on the Assembly floor for us this week. Thirteen of my bills were approved by the Assembly and are now headed to the Senate for further consideration. Below you will find a brief description of these pieces of legislation. If you need further information please feel free to contact me at Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov or you may contact any of my offices listed below.

AB 31 Central San Joaquin Economic Empowerment will require the creation of an Interagency Task Force to aid in the economic development of the Central San Joaquin Valley by bringing state resources to the valley.

AB 208 Military Families (Education) will require school districts to give preference to the children of military personnel in the process of an interdistrict transfer. The goal of AB 208 is

to begin to address a historic problem that causes additional complications for many military families transferring to California.

AB 314 CYA Minimum Standards will require the California Youth Authority to complete a comprehensive study on newly committed wards to determine his or her educational, physical, and mental status and any substance abuse problems. Each ward would be provided with educational programs, counseling services and would be given quarterly case conferences to assess each wards progress.

AB 437 Megan's Law Conviction-Date on Web will require that an individual's conviction and prison release date be available on the Megan's Law database.

AB 439 Sex Offender Legislation will clarify existing law regarding registration responsibilities. This bill makes it clear that an individual must continue to register even if their conviction is expunged. The bill would also require certain registered sex offenders to notify law enforcement of a change in address either in person, registered, or certified mail.

AB 460 Vet Quarantine will strengthen the ability for the State Veterinarian to implement quarantines to stop any outbreak from spreading rapidly. The bill will act as a preventative measure by creating standards for sanitation.

AB 466 Parks: Grant Process will require the Department of Parks and Recreation to adopt policy and procedures for project oversight and monitoring of the grant program for state or local park projects by June 30, 2006.

AB 677 Murder for Hire will include solicitation of murder as a "serious" offense in order to make individuals eligible for enhanced penalties under the Three Strikes Law.

AB 706 CSU Whistleblower Protections will allow the Cal State University system to shield an employee's identity and confidentiality when filing a complaint to avoid retaliation.

AB 734 Kangaroo Leather Importation will clarify Penal Code Section 653o by allowing the sale of products made of non-endangered species of kangaroo in the State of California.

AB 1110 Home-to- School Transportation Block Grant will ensure that the most under funded educational state program, home-to-school transportation, be given desperately needed funding. The bill will ensure that school transportation also be given a yearly cost of living increase. This would benefit rural school districts who have disproportionately higher transportation costs because they serve fewer students per square mile and as a result, must transport greater numbers of pupils over longer distances.

AB 1419 Banking Licenses: Chapter Forms will allow existing consumer finance licensees to notify the Department of Corporations when they open a new branch or relocate an existing branch without the necessity of completing an application and awaiting the Commissioners approval to do so.

AB 1542 Judge Discretion on Sentencing will authorize judges to refer veterans diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and have been convicted of certain crimes to treatment programs in lieu of incarceration.

Other Highlights

WOMEN'S ADVISORY GROUP

On Saturday **June 11th**, my Women's Advisory Group will be gathering for the first time. Two meetings have been established to accommodate as many as possible. The first meeting will take place from **10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** at the **Hanford Civic Building Training Conference Room** located at **321 N. Douty Street** in **Hanford**. The second meeting will take place from **2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the **Kern County Housing Authority's Conference Room** located at **601 24th Street** in **Bakersfield**. It is not too late to join! This is a great opportunity to meet and join other women in the community as we discuss upcoming legislation, the state budget and other issues of importance to women. For more information please contact **Nathalia Carrillo** at **(661) 334-3745** or **Teresa Plascencia** at **(559)585-7170**.

HIGH SPEED RAIL WORKING GROUP

The first High-Speed Rail Working Group meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, but had to be postponed for Members. Floor session was rescheduled for earlier in the day, so Members were not able to attend. This meeting will be rescheduled.

HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP

The **Office of Statewide Planning and Development (OSHDP)** has offered to participate in a conference call to be tentatively held on **Monday, June 6th** from **9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** with members of my Health Advisory Group and anyone else interested. They will inform us on the various services their agency offers. If you are interested in participating please contact **Frank Stiger** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Frank.Stiger@asm.ca.gov

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOWN HALL

On Saturday **June 18th**, I will be hosting a Domestic Violence Town Hall Meeting from **1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the **Kern County Fire Fighters Hall** located at **3615 Mt. Vernon Avenue** in **Bakersfield**. This event is open to the public. For more information please contact Juan Cerda at my Bakersfield District office at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov.

FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE

On **July 9th**, I will be hosting a Foster Care Conference at **California State University Bakersfield's Student Union Building** from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Registration begins at **8:00 a.m.** Joining me will be several organizations who will inform foster care youth and parents of available resources and rights. This event is open to the public. For more information please contact Juan Cerda at my Bakersfield District office at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov.

GOT JOKES??

If you have any good jokes or even some pretty bad ones, e-mail them to my staffer Mary at mary.gutierrez@asm.ca.gov. Please include your name and the city you reside in. And yes, all jokes must be PG13.

SUMMER INTERNS WANTED

I am presently accepting applications for my summer internship program in my Hanford and Bakersfield district offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley.

Applications can be found at <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>. For more details, please contact Jeff Forbes at the Hanford office at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at

jeff.forbes@asm.ca.gov . For Bakersfield office internships please contact **Manuel Barrera** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov

GRANTS

Beginning late June my office will be distributing grant packages. Included in the package will be information regarding, state, federal and private grants. For more information please contact Jeff Forbes at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at jeff.forbes@asm.ca.gov .

Joke of the Week

This week's joke of the week is submitted by **Bakersfield** resident **Blodgie Rodriguez**.

Q: What do you call a bus load of journalists teetering perilously on the edge of a cliff just before falling over the edge?

A: Fair and Balanced

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